

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of software development comprising the steps of:

determining, through Java reflection API calls, a current software signature for each Java object, from a Java software application comprising Java application code, to be administered by a software development wizard;

retrieving from a deployment descriptor a Java object deployment description for each said Java object;

detecting changes in the Java application code, wherein detecting changes includes contrasting the current software signatures and the retrieved Java object deployment descriptions;

displaying, for user revision through a user interface, representations of the detected changes in the Java application code, wherein user revision includes user confirmation of detected changes;

recording user revisions in the deployment descriptor; and

conforming the Java application code to the user revisions.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the deployment descriptor comprises an XML file, the method further comprising converting the XML file to a DOM object.

3. The method of claim 2 further comprising providing, in the form of entries in the DOM object, a list of the Java objects to be administered by a software development wizard.
4. The method of claim 2 further comprising storing detected changes in the form of entries in the DOM object.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the deployment descriptor comprises XML deployment descriptions, the method further comprising the steps of:
- 5 providing a list of the Java objects to be administered by a software development wizard; and
- converting the XML deployment descriptions to a DOM object in dependence upon the list of Java objects to be administered by a wizard,
- 10 whereby the only XML deployment descriptions converted into the DOM object are XML deployment descriptions for Java objects to be administered by a wizard.
6. The method of claim 5 further comprising storing detected changes in the form of entries in the DOM object

7. A method of software development comprising the steps of:

providing a Java software application comprising Java application code which further comprises Java objects including classes, member methods, and member variables;

providing a list of Java objects, among the Java objects comprised within the Java application code, to be administered by a software development wizard;

providing a deployment descriptor for the Java application, wherein the deployment descriptor includes Java object deployment descriptions for Java objects to be administered by the software development wizard;

determining, through Java reflection API calls, a current software signature for each listed Java object;

retrieving from the deployment descriptor a Java object deployment description for each listed Java object;

detecting changes in the Java application code, wherein detecting changes includes contrasting the current software signatures and the retrieved Java object deployment descriptions;

displaying, for user revision through a user interface, representations of the detected changes in the Java application code, wherein user revision includes user confirmation of detected changes;

recording user revisions in the deployment descriptor; and

30 conforming the Java application code to the user revisions.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein the deployment descriptor comprises an XML file and providing a deployment descriptor further comprises converting the XML file to a DOM object.
9. The method of claim 8 wherein providing a list of Java objects within the Java application code to be administered by software development wizard further comprises providing the list in the form of entries in the DOM object.
10. The method of claim 8 further comprising storing detected changes in the form of entries in the DOM object.
11. The method of claim 7 wherein the deployment descriptor comprises XML deployment descriptions and providing a deployment descriptor further comprises converting the XML deployment descriptions to a DOM object in dependence upon the list of Java objects to be administered by a wizard,
5 whereby the only XML deployment descriptions converted into the DOM object are XML deployment descriptions for Java objects to be administered by a wizard.
12. The method of claim 11 further comprising storing detected changes in the form of entries in the DOM object.

13. A system of software development comprising:

means for determining, through Java reflection API calls, a current software signature for each Java object, from a Java software application comprising Java application code, to be administered by a software development wizard;

means for retrieving from a deployment descriptor a Java object deployment description for each said Java object;

means for detecting changes in the Java application code, wherein detecting changes includes contrasting the current software signatures and the retrieved Java object deployment descriptions;

means for displaying, for user revision through a user interface, representations of the detected changes in the Java application code, wherein user revision includes user confirmation of detected changes;

means for recording user revisions in the deployment descriptor; and

means for conforming the Java application code to the user revisions.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein the deployment descriptor comprises an XML file, the system further comprising means for converting the XML file to a DOM object.

15. The system of claim 14 further comprising means for providing, in the form of entries in the DOM object, a list of the Java objects to be administered by a software development wizard.
16. The system of claim 14 further comprising means for storing detected changes in the form of entries in the DOM object.
17. The system of claim 13, wherein the deployment descriptor comprises XML deployment descriptions, the system further comprising:
- 5 means for providing a list of the Java objects to be administered by a software development wizard; and
- means for converting the XML deployment descriptions to a DOM object in dependence upon the list of Java objects to be administered by a wizard,
- 10 whereby the only XML deployment descriptions converted into the DOM object are XML deployment descriptions for Java objects to be administered by a wizard.
18. The system of claim 17 further comprising means for storing detected changes in the form of entries in the DOM object.

19. A computer program product of software development comprising:

a recording medium;

5 means, recorded on the recording medium, for determining, through Java reflection API calls, a current software signature for each Java object, from a Java software application comprising Java application code, to be administered by a software development wizard;

10 means, recorded on the recording medium, for retrieving from a deployment descriptor a Java object deployment description for each said Java object;

15 means, recorded on the recording medium, for detecting changes in the Java application code, wherein detecting changes includes contrasting the current software signatures and the retrieved Java object deployment descriptions;

20 means, recorded on the recording medium, for displaying, for user revision through a user interface, representations of the detected changes in the Java application code, wherein user revision includes user confirmation of detected changes;

means, recorded on the recording medium, for recording user revisions in the deployment descriptor; and

25 means, recorded on the recording medium, for conforming the Java application code to the user revisions.

20. The computer program product of claim 19, wherein the deployment descriptor comprises an XML file, the computer program product further comprising means, recorded on the recording medium, for converting the XML file to a DOM object.

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21. The computer program product of claim 20 further comprising means, recorded on the recording medium, for providing, in the form of entries in the DOM object, a list of the Java objects to be administered by a software development wizard.

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22. The computer program product of claim 20 further comprising means, recorded on the recording medium, for storing detected changes in the form of entries in the DOM object.

23. The computer program product of claim 19, wherein the deployment descriptor comprises XML deployment descriptions, the computer program product further comprising:

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means, recorded on the recording medium, for providing a list of the Java objects to be administered by a software development wizard; and

means, recorded on the recording medium, for converting the XML deployment descriptions to a DOM object in dependence upon the list of Java objects to be administered by a wizard,

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whereby the only XML deployment descriptions converted into the DOM object are XML deployment descriptions for Java objects to be administered by a wizard.

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24. The computer program product of claim 23 further comprising means, recorded on the recording medium, for storing detected changes in the form of entries in the DOM object.